

# WOMAN'S HOME PAGE

## CHARLES DWYER... Editor THE LITTLE THINGS IN DRESS

### TASTE IN THE ACCESSORIES THE MARK OF DISTINCTION

There come times when it seems necessary to concentrate the mind on the fact that good dressing is largely an individual matter. With any radical change in style—outline, silhouette, the French people aptly call it—it is well to consider your figure—take a personal stock account, as it were—realizing the good lines which must be retained and any undesirable features that may be disguised or improved. The beginning of the spring season was beset with rumors that were most disquieting, proclaiming the vogue of the extreme and impossible. It really was not worth while to fret over the matter, for good sense, like truth, is mighty and must prevail. When we are threatened with the loss of the waist-line, the time for serious consideration has come.

As a matter of fact, the spring styles are cause for self-congratulation, partly because less material is required in the making, and the combinations of materials afford the most satisfactory conditions for remodeling. The vogue of the separate coat is another feature that will appeal for many reasons. The costume with skirt and waist corresponding or cut in princess, or united by the girdle that makes the princess effect, appeals especially strongly to the woman of mature years, to whom the separate waist always seemed lacking in dignity.

Important Accessories

It is in the accessories of costume that many novelties are presented this

be carefully fitted and as close as the sides as possible, and when, as now, fashion demands a ruche finish, it should be narrow and flat. For the woman with a slender neck there are many fascinating neck pieces, and practically all of them may be produced at home.

A lace band with a ruche on both edges is a favorite form, and a linen band with a narrow plaiting of lawn or fine linen at the upper edge and a wide plaiting at the lower, is immensely becoming to a young face. These are called nuns' collars. The lower plaiting may deepen into a point at the front and is at least four inches deep at the sides and back. Deep lace frills at the wrist are revived for both dress and coat sleeves, a fashion that should be welcomed for its good effect on the hand.

Naturally, their use in the latter case will be confined to fancy coats; they would be rather out of place in sleeves of a severely plain tailored coat. These severely plain

has this finish, and in the arrangement of the sash is no inconsiderable part of the gown's effect. It becomes in some cases practically a drapery. Of a number shown at a Fifth Avenue shop recently two were studied as representative specimens.

The simpler of the two was made of black ribbon velvet. Several rows (according to the width of the girdle) are laid in plits and tacked to the boned foundation. Two ends, of unequal length, are then tacked at the left side under a loose knot of the ribbon. The ends are gathered together and finished

trimming features apart from their association with the sash. Tassels and pendants of all kinds are used made of silk, cord, braid, or, as in this case, the material of the garment.

Buttons a Feature of the Coming Styles

Buttons grow rather than decrease in favor, and are used alike on waists, skirts or coats. The wooden mold is the usual foundation, though if a different shape (a square, for instance) is wanted, the foundation may be cut from stiff cardboard. The round shape is most popular and is well liked framed

tion—that is designed and made for each gown individually.

Harmony the Secret of Effectiveness

In gathering together the materials for a gown, harmony, not contrast, is the idea to bear in mind. While different tones of one color may be employed to advantage, no second color enters the composition this season, except in thinnest touches in the trimmings. In the matter of favorite colors, darker shades have the preference, and black, either alone or in combination with white—"Maggie combination," it is

### GIRDLES & BUTTONS AMONG THE SEASON'S NOVELTIES

quantity of lace and other white stuff in their making. Black gowns generally have the dual advantage of distinction and economy. The well-planned black gown will look well for every occasion, yet not insistently proclaim itself as a color may. No matter what the gown's color may be, hard lines at face and hands are to

goods those with a satin finish are most popular.

Sashes for Misses' Dresses

Sashes for misses' dresses require the boned girdle support for the benefit of the beautiful ribbons that are used. The doubling-over, stringy process would mean too great sacrifice. Ribbons are



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TAILORED LACE COAT WITH GRAY SILK EDGING

season, and they all have a distinctive bearing on up-to-date dress. One might almost consider them of greater importance than the gown itself. Neck and waist dressings show the greatest novelties; ruches of every description would seem to permit a choice for everyone, though they are best suited to slender necks and faces; a wide ruche especially has a tendency to impart to a full face a cup-and-saucer effect that is not entirely pleasing.

Neck dressing that shall be becoming is a trying problem to the possessor of a short, plump neck. The collar should

coats, semi-fitting and neatly tailored, are by no means driven out by the more elaborate models, with trimmings, revers and even sashes. This plain coat has made a place of its own, even in Paris, where it is known as the "American coat."

The Coming In of the Girdle

It is the girdle with sash ends that will be most gladly received of all the newer accessories, and its use will go a long way toward transforming a last season's gown. Almost every gown turned out by a first-class dressmaker

with a silk tassel. The other girdle was made of white satin and is intended, of course, for evening wear. The bias girdle portion is shirred over cords that cross its width at spaces of about five inches, and tacked to the foundation. The sash is draped high on the right side of the girdle and knotted to fall loosely over the skirt on the left side.

There are two smaller features in this girdle that are of interest. One is the ball tassels knotted from satin-covered cord, and the other is the large satin-covered button that apparently secures the sash to the girdle. Both are strong

in a plaited frill of ribbon or silk. The buttons are quite large and as a trimming have something of a medallion effect.

Fringes, tassels and pendant ornaments of all sorts, when judiciously used, are good. Satin-covered cord is used in much the same manner as braid, which it frequently replaces. What is called a home-made look, applied as a term of disapprobation to a gown, may, in quite another sense of the word, be applied to most attractive trimmings and ornaments. There certainly must be originality to commend the ornamenta-

called—promises to become very popular. A black gown has distinct value and a place in every wardrobe, even when light colors are preferred.

There is a prejudiced idea that black is unbefitting to a woman of advancing years, but there is really no foundation for this notion; quite the contrary, in fact. No matter what the color of the gown, its treatment at the neck determines its effect upon the face. That is why the chemise and small yokes of lace or soft white chiffon have established themselves so firmly, and the newest neck pieces show an increased

be avoided. If all-black mourning precludes a white finish, the line must be softened by using a transparent material.

Though there is, perhaps, not quite an equal variety of ready-made ruchings in black, it is not a difficult matter to make just what one wants, and the home-laundering qualities of cravenette crepe and veiling should be remembered. Of course, the dullest of black gros-grain ribbon or silk must be used for the girdle of such dresses, though ordinarily satin is preferred. It is, by the way, something of a satin year. It is made up into entire gowns, and in woolen

likely to play a prominent part in dress this spring and summer. Many of the floral effects are exquisite. Some wide sash ribbons show these rich blossoms on a background of woven gold threads. This savor rather too much of "painting the lily"; the flowers in delicate colors on white or lightly tinted ground seem in better taste.

The girdle is tacked to its foundation and the bow and ends tacked in place, the fastening being made by hooks and eyes. A sash prepared in this way will last many times as long as one that is drawn about the waist and tied.

### CARE OF THE HAIR

#### Simple Methods to Preserve and Beautify It

THE care of the hair is a great and important subject, since the care varies with the individual. The condition of the hair is often an index to the health. It becomes thin, dry, and falls out, as a general thing the person needs a tonic, the health is below par.

It is said that the life of a hair is from two to six years, and that one can lose on an average fifty to sixty hairs a day. That I think is a large number. Anxiety in regard to the hair is aroused when it commences to fall out. The average man lives in terror of becoming bald, a fate that usually overtakes him. A great German authority writing recently on the subject of baldness, says that it can be combated successfully if treatment is begun as soon as the hair is seen to begin to fall.

Preventing Baldness

"Frequent shampooing and rubbing the head is the best preventive of baldness." He even recommends daily shampooing with soap and hot water. This is to be followed by an application of one to one thousand solution of bichloride of mercury. When this vaporizes the scalp is rubbed with a one to four hundred solution of thymol or naphthol in alcohol, after which he uses an ointment of one part of salicylic acid, two of tincture of benzoin and fifty of vaseline, which is rubbed into the roots of the hair. In obstinate cases the treatment is begun by the applica-

tions of tar liniment, which is removed by soap ten minutes later.

Shampooing

You observe that our great German authority recommends daily shampooing. Once a month, most hair-dressers will tell you. A better guide is the condition of the hair. If it becomes oily and sticky, it should be shampooed at once. Most hair needs shampooing oftener than four weeks. If the hair is dirty, the hair follicles are stopped up, the nourishment of the hair is impaired and it will fall out. The hair gets dirty the same as a garment. How quickly this can occur is shown by white hair, which has to be frequently washed to look properly cared for.

The basis of most of the shampoos recommended for the hair is an egg. Some use only the white of the egg, others claim that the yolk is better, as its chemical constituents are especially needed by the hair. The egg should be beaten up in a cupful of water, to which has been added a teaspoonful of green soap and a teaspoonful of alcohol or cologne. This can be poured over the hair and rubbed into the scalp with the fingers.

The Use of a Brush

It is better yet to use a brush which comes for shampooing or a toothbrush. In default of one with longer hairs, part the hair in strips about a half or two-thirds of an inch apart and scrub

the scalp with the shampoo mixture. This is a good way to remove dandruff, and the action of the brush on the scalp stimulates the circulation.

After having gone thus thoroughly over the scalp, wash the ends of the hair with the shampoo mixture and then rinse the soap out of the hair thoroughly with hot water, afterwards using colder water, until at last it is quite cold. The action of first the very hot water and then the very cold is good to stimulate the blood-vessels.

Dry the hair as quickly and thoroughly as possible, so as not to take cold. Dry it near the register, heater or fire, and hasten the process with hot towels, or the use of palm-leaf fans.

Massage

I am asked about massage of the scalp and how one can apply it. While the shampooing can be done by oneself, it is much pleasanter to have it performed by someone else. The same is true of scalp massage; but then it will not be done sufficiently often to be of much practical benefit. If you do it every time you comb your hair, you will obtain some results from it. If you live in a large city where such things are done, it is well to take a treatment or two in order to better understand the process.

You should use the tips of the fingers, the pulps, so to speak, of each hand, applying them first as close as possible to the scalp, then with a circular motion, while still pressing firmly on the scalp, go over the entire scalp, so that the blood will be brought to the roots of the hair. Superficial rubbing does no good, and is apt to rub the hair out by the roots.

Brushing the hair is of little benefit, and sometimes is quite the contrary, as it drags the hair out. It is much better to use the finger tips in the manner described. It is supposed that baldness is due to microbes, which can be carried from one head to another by means of combs, brushes and by the fingers of those who make a profession of giving scalp massage. All combs and brushes should be kept scrupulously clean. One should always take her own when going to a hair-dresser.

Using Hair Tonics

What is a good hair tonic? The selection of anything to be applied to the scalp for the benefit of the hair requires judgment. If the hair is oily and sticky it does not need more grease, but rather something of a drying nature, such as has a good deal of alcohol in it. The quinine hair tonics are good for such cases. If the hair is dry and feels dead, the crying need is grease.

Crude yellow vaseline is much used for this purpose. A little is taken on the finger and rubbed into the roots. This prevents the mass of hair from getting sticky. A good way to apply grease is to use the oil cans used for sewing machines. The vaseline has to be made thin by heating it into it. Almond oil or olive oil can be used for this purpose. Lanolin is also used for the roots of the hair mixed with vaseline and oil. It is too sticky to be used by itself.

The long nozzle of the oil can makes the application of the oily mixture to the roots of the hair easier, as it can be introduced to the scalp and the oil reaches the roots without oiling the hair itself. If the scalp is white and the roots of the

hair seem dead, and the hair is falling out in quantities, one of the best things to stimulate the scalp and provoke a growth of hair is the tincture of cantharides.

Value of Cantharides

Used in full strength, it would probably blister most scalps. To avoid this, it should be diluted with water to a half or a third of its strength. It is not possible to give definite directions, as the tenderness of the scalp varies so greatly with different people, but it should be used as strong as one can without blistering.

It should be applied to the roots of the hair every day or every other day according to the effect of the application. If the scalp is very red and irritated one should wait before making another application. It is better to use it in this way by itself than to add it, as is so often done, to the hair tonics, for then the strength can be regulated as well as the length of time of its use.

Castor Oil

Castor oil is often recommended for hair-tonics or incorporated in them. It is no better than the oily substances already mentioned, and its odor makes it unpleasant.

In those cases where the hair is falling alarmingly, shaving the scalp is resorted to, and undoubtedly with much benefit. The hair is shaved several times, or until marked improvement is shown, before it is allowed to grow again.

The annoyance of a wig or wearing a cap is very great; the head becomes heated, and it is a fact that the hair should be exposed freely to the air.

### HURRY-UP BREAKFASTS

#### For a Two-Hole Gas-Stove

##### MENU No. 1

SELECT the latest drying of evaporated peaches and soak over night in water sufficient to cover. Cook in the same water in the double boiler until soft, then sweeten to taste and add a few drops of lemon-juice. Evaporated peaches, like prunes, should be cooked a day or two before wanted.

The mush which was left over from a former breakfast, poured into a flat dish and kept in the refrigerator, should be cut in neat strips and either dipped in flour or beaten egg and milk. It will not splutter whichever way it is prepared, and may be fried, in butter or lard as preferred, to a golden brown. It should be eaten hot with butter and maple syrup.

After the mush has browned put the toaster over one flame and the frying-pan over the other. Cut off the heads and tails of the Yarmouth bloaters and split down the middle. Put a tablespoonful of butter in the frying-pan and put the fish, flesh side downward, in this. As it is already smoked it only needs to warm through. Then lay in a hot dish, flesh side uppermost, dot with butter, pepper slightly and pour on each one a teaspoonful of boiling water.

Cut the bread for the toast thick, trim off the crusts, turn frequently while toasting so that the slices will not become dry, and butter generously, piling one slice on top of the other and covering closely to keep soft until eaten.

##### MENU No. 2

Don't slice your bananas, nor yet serve them whole. Have them very cold and take off a strip lengthwise, leaving the pulp revealed in a long yellow basket. This is to be scraped with a teaspoon and so eaten; and, take my word for it, until you have tried this mode you will never know how good a banana can taste. This is also a more wholesome way to eat the fruit than any other.

Allow two and one-half cupsful of boiling water to three heaping tablespoonfuls of yellow cornmeal. Salt the water; mix the meal to a rather liquid paste with cold water and stir by spoonfuls into the water, which should be boiling fiercely in the inner saucepan of the double boiler. It will thicken at once, and if it is very stiff a little more boiling water must be added. Then put the saucepan in the under saucepan of boiling water and let cook while you prepare the other dishes.

First make some thin toast for the mince, buttering the slices and putting them on the frying-dish under the stove. If you are keeping house you will probably have cold roast beef, beef-steak or mutton on hand, which can be passed through the meat-chopper and used; otherwise, purchase a pound of Hamburg-steak; do not have it chopped very fine and be sure it is made from tender meat free from gristle. Fry with onions and serve on toast.